

SENATE NO. 446

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 34 of Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking in line 1 the words “After eight o’clock” and inserting in
3 place thereof the following:-

4 “Except as provided in section 34A of this chapter, after eight o’clock”

5 SECTION 2. Said section 51 of the general laws is hereby further amended by adding after section
6 34 the following new section:-

7 34A. (a) An individual who is eligible to vote may register on the day of an election or primary
8 by appearing in person, at the office of the registrar or at the polling place for the precinct in which
9 the individual resides, providing proof of residence, proof of identity, and making an oath in a form
10 prescribed by the secretary of the commonwealth.

11 (b) For purposes of this section, the term “proof of residence” shall mean any one of the
12 following so long as it includes the applicant’s address:

13 (i) a current and valid government-issued photo identification, such as a valid
14 Massachusetts drivers license, a state-issued identification card, official student
15 identification card, or;

16 (ii) other documentation demonstrating the name and address of the voter, such as
17 a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other
18 government document.

19 (c) For purposes of this section, the term “proof of identity” shall mean: a current and
20 valid photo identification issued by a government agency or an educational institution, such as a US
21 passport, a valid Massachusetts drivers license, a state-issued identification card, or official student
22 identification card.

23 (d) Upon the production of proof of residence, proof of identity, and making an oath as
24 prescribed by the secretary of the commonwealth sufficient to support registration, the registrar or
25 his or her designee shall permit the applicant to vote on the day of an election or primary and shall
26 place the applicant’s name and address on the annual register of voters as soon as reasonably
27 possible, but not later than 5 days after the election. Any person who registers to vote on the day of
28 an election or primary in accordance with this section shall, absent disqualification, be registered to
29 vote at all subsequent elections.

30 (e) In order to facilitate such election day voter registration, the state secretary shall make
31 available, to the election officers at each polling place, access to the central registry of voters set
32 forth in section 47C of this chapter.

33 (f) Violations of this section shall be punishable pursuant to section 8 of chapter 56.